

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sansoucy, M.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.: Unassigned

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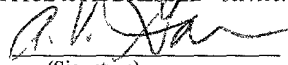
For: SELF-OCCLUDING CATHETER

Dated: January 17, 2001

Date 1/17/01 Label No. EF110945918US

I hereby certify that on the date indicated above I
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A.V. Garramone
Name (Print)


(Signature)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee for the above-referenced concurrently filed
application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, before line 1, insert - - This application is a continuation of U.S. Application
Serial No. 09/368,611, filed on August 5, 1999. - -

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-26 without prejudice.

Add the following new claims 27-36:

27. A self-occluding catheter comprising:

a body portion having an inlet port having an inlet conduit extending therefrom, an outlet port having an outlet port extending therefrom and a transverse bore in fluid communication with said inlet conduit and said outlet conduit;

an occluding device movably supported within said transverse bore of said body portion for movement between a position occluding said inlet and outlet conduits, and a position opening said inlet and outlet conduit; and

a biasing device for resiliently maintaining said occluding device in said closed position;

wherein a fluid pressure applied to said occluding device overcomes said resilient bias to move said occluding device to said open position.

28. A self-occluding catheter of claim 27 wherein said occluding device includes a spool slidably supported within said transverse bore.

29. The self-occluding catheter connector as defined in claim 27, wherein said spool is magnetically charged and said biasing device including a magnet fixed adjacent said spool, said magnet generating a magnetic force for resiliently urging said spool to said closed position.

30. The self-occluding catheter connector as defined in claim 29, wherein said spool includes an internal magnet for providing said magnetic charge.

31. The self-occluding catheter connector as defined in claim 27, wherein said biasing device comprises a spring positioned adjacent said spool for spring biasing said spool to said closed position.

32. The self-occluding catheter connector as defined in claim 27, wherein said spool comprises a cylindrical member having two opposite end portions and a central portion, said end portions having a diameter slightly less than the diameter of said transverse bore for providing a close sliding relationship between said end portions and said transverse bore, said

end portions simultaneously blocking said inlet and outlet fluid conduits when said spool is in said closed position, and said central portion having a smaller diameter than said end portions for permitting flow around said spool when said spool is in said open position.

33. The self-occluding catheter connector as defined in claim 32, wherein at least one of said end portions includes a sealing ring for preventing fluid flow between said inlet and said outlet fluid conduits.

34. The self-occluding catheter of claim 27 further including:
an elongated tubular extension attached to said distal body portion for insertion into a body cavity, said tubular extension having a pair of lumens, each said lumen in fluid communication with a respective one of said inlet and outlet conduits of said body portion;

35. The self-occluding catheter of claim 34, wherein said tubular extension is releasably connected to said body portion.

36. The self-occluding catheter of claim 34, wherein said tubular extension is integrally formed with said body portion.

REMARKS

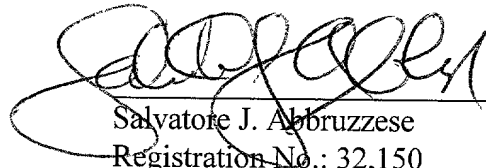
Prior to calculation of the application filing fees and examination of the above-referenced application, Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments be made.

The specification has been amended to reference the parent application. Claims 1-26 are cancelled. New claims 27-36 are presented herewith.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for Examination. Favorable action thereon is respectfully submitted.

Any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application should be directed to Applicants' undersigned representative who can be reached at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Salvatore J. Abbruzzese", is written over a horizontal line.

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